mous; to cenſure falſely in publick; to deprive of honour; to diſhonour by reports; to libel; to calumniate; to deſtroy reputation by either acts or words.

I heard the *defaming* of many. *Jer.* xx. 10.

They live as if they profeſſed Chriſtianity merely in ſpight, to *defame* it. *Decay of Piety.*

My guilt thy growing virtues did *defame*;
My blackneſs blotted thy unblemiſh'd name. *Dryden's Æn.*

DEFA'ME. *n. ſ.* [from the verb.] Diſgrace; diſhonour.

Many doughty knights he in his days
Had done to death,
And hung their conquer'd arms for more *defame*
On gallowtrees. *Fairy Queen, b.* ii. *cant.* 5. *ſtan.* 26.

DEFA'MER. *n. ſ.* [from *defame.*] One that injures the reputation of another; a detracter; a calumniator.

It may be a uſeful trial of the patience of the defamed, yet the *defamer* has not the leſs crime. *Government of the Tongue.*

To DEFA'TIGATE. *v. a.* [*defatigo*, Latin.] To weary; to tire. *Dict.*

DEFATIGA'TION. *n. ſ.* [*defatigatio*, Latin.] Wearineſs; fatigue. *Dict.*

DEFA'ULT. *n. ſ.* [*defaut*, French.]

1. Omiſſion of that which we ought to do; neglect.
2. Crime; failure; fault.

Sedition tumbled into England more by the *default* of governours than the peoples. *Haywood.*

We that know what 'tis to faſt and pray,
Are penitent for your *default* to-day. *Shak. Com. of Errours.*

Let me not raſhly call in doubt
Divine prediction: what if all foretold
Had been fulfill'd, but through mine own *default*,
Whom have I to complain of, but myſelf? *Milt. Agoniſtes.*

Partial judges we are of our own excellencies, and other mens *defaults*. *Swift.*

3. Defect; want.

In *default* of the king's pay, the forces were laid upon the ſubject. *Davies on Ireland.*

Cooks could make artificial birds and fiſhes, in *default* of the real ones. *Arbuthnot on Coins.*

4. [In law.] Non-appearance in court at a day aſſigned. *Cowel.*

To DEFA'ULT. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To fail in performing any contract or ſtipulation; to forfeit by breaking a contract.

DEFE'ASANCE. *n. ſ.* [*defaiſance*, French.]

1. The act of annulling or abrogating any contract or ſtipulation.
2. *Defeaſance* is a condition annexed to an act; as to an obligation, a recogniſance, or ſtatute, which performed by the obliger, or the cognizee, the act is diſabled and made void, as if it had never been done. *Cowel.*
3. The writing in which a defeaſance is contained.
4. A defeat; conqueſt; the act of conquering; the ſtate of being conquered. Obſolete.

That hoary king, with all his train,
Being arrived, where that champion ſtout,
After his foe's *defeaſance*, did remain,
Him goodly greets, and fair does entertain. *Fairy Queen.*

DEFE'ASIBLE. *adj.* [from *defaire*, Fr. to make void.] That which may be annulled or abrogated.

He came to the crown by a *defeaſible* title, ſo was never well ſettled. *Davies on Ireland.*

DEFE'AT. *n. ſ.* [from *defaire*, French.]

1. The overthrow of an army.

End Marlb'rough's work, and finiſh the *defeat*. *Addiſon.*

2. Act of deſtruction; deprivation.

A king, upon whoſe life
A damn'd *defeat* was made. *Shakeſpeare's Hamlet.*

To DEFE'AT. *v. a.* [from the noun.]

1. To overthrow.

Ye gods, ye make the weak moſt ſtrong;
Therein, ye gods, ye tyrants do *defeat*. *Shakeſ. Jul. Cæſar.*

They invaded Ireland, and were *defeated* by the lord Mountjoy. *Bacon on the War with Spain.*

2. To fruſtrate.

To his accuſations
He pleaded ſtill not guilty, and alleg'd
Many ſharp reaſons to *defeat* the law. *Shakeſ. Henry* VIII.

Death,
Then due by ſentence when thou did'ſt tranſgreſs,
*Defeated* of his ſeizure, many days,
Giv'n thee of grace. *Milton's Paradiſe Loſt, b.* ii. *l.* 254.

Diſcover'd, and *defeated* of your prey,
You ſkulk'd. *Dryden's Virg. Paſt.* 3.

He finds himſelf naturally to dread a ſuperior Being, that can *defeat* all his deſigns, and diſappoint all his hopes. *Tillotſon.*

3. To aboliſh.

DEFE'ATURE. *n. ſ.* [from *de* and *feature.*] Change of feature; alteration of countenance.

Grief hath chang'd me,
And careful hours, with time's deformed hand,
Hath written ſtrange *defeatures* in my face. *Shakeſpeare.*

To DEFECATE. *v. a.* [*defæco*, Latin.]

1. To purge liquors from lees or foulneſs; to purify; to cleanſe.

I practiſed a way to *defecate* the dark and muddy oil of amber. *Boyle's Hiſtory of Firmneſs.*

The blood is not ſufficiently *defecated* or clarified, but remains muddy. *Harvey on Conſumptions.*

Provide a brazen tube
Inflext; ſelf-taught and voluntary flies
The *defecated* liquor, through the vent
Aſcending; then, by downward tract convey'd,
Spouts into ſubject veſſels, lovely clear. *Philips.*

2. To purify from any extraneous or noxious mixture; to clear; to brighten.

We *defecate* the notion from materiality, and abſtract quantity, place, and all kind of corporcity from it. *Glanv. Scepſ.*

We are puzzled with contradictions, which are no abſurdities to *defecate* faculties. *Glanv. Scepſ. c.* 13.

DE'FECATE. *adj.* [from the verb.] Purged from lees or foulneſs.

This liquor was very *defecate*, and of a pleaſing golden colour. *Boyle's Spring of the Air.*

DEFECA'TION. *n. ſ.* [*defecatio*, Latin.] Purification; the act of clearing or purifying.

The ſpleen and liver are obſtructed in their offices of *defecation*, whence vicious and dreggiſh blood. *Harvey on Conſum.*

DEFE'CT. *n. ſ.* [*defectus*, Latin.]

1. Want; abſence of ſomething neceſſary; inſufficiency; the fault oppoſed to ſuperfluity.

Errors have been corrected, and *defects* ſupplied. *Davies.*

Had this ſtrange energy been leſs,
*Defect* had been as fatal as exceſs. *Blackmore's Creation.*

2. Failing; want.

Oft 'tis ſeen
Our mean ſecures us, and our mere *defects*
Prove our commodities. *Shakeſpeare's King Lear.*

3. A fault; miſtake; error.

We had rather follow the perfections of them whom we like not, than in *defects* reſemble them whom we love. *Hooker.*

You praiſe yourſelf,
By laying *defects* of judgment to me. *Shakeſ. Ant. and Cleop.*

Truſt not yourſelf; but your *defects* to know,
Make uſe of ev'ry friend—and ev'ry foe. *Pope's Eſſay.*

4. Any natural imperfection; a blemiſh; a failure.

Men, through ſome *defect* in the organs, want words, yet fail not to expreſs their univerſal ideas by ſigns. *Locke.*

To DEFE'CT. *v. n.* [from the noun.] To be deficient; to fall ſhort of; to fail. Obſolete.

Some loſt themſelves in attempts above humanity, yet the enquiries of moſt *defected* by the way, and tired within the ſober circumference of knowledge. *Brown's Vulgar Errours.*

DEFECTIBI'LITY. *n. ſ.* [from *defectible.*] The ſtate of falling; deficiency; imperfection.

The corruption of things corruptible depends upon the intrinſecal *defectibility* of the connection or union of the parts of things corporeal, which is rooted in the very nature of the things. *Hale's Origin of Mankind.*

DEFE'CTIBLE. *adj* [from *defect.*]

1. Imperfect; deficient; wanting.

The extraordinary perſons, thus highly favoured, were for a great part of their lives in a *defectible* condition. *Hale.*

DEFE'CTION. *n. ſ.* [*defectio*, Latin.]

1. Want; failure.
2. A falling away; apoſtacy.

This *defection* and falling away from God was firſt found in angels, and afterwards in men. *Raleigh's Hiſtory of the World.*

If we fall away after taſting of the good word of God, how criminal muſt ſuch a *defection* be? *Atterbury's Sermons.*

But there is more evil owing to our original *defection* from God, and the fooliſh and evil diſpoſitions that are found in fallen man. *Watts's Logick.*

3. An abandoning of a king, or ſtate; revolt.

He was diverted and drawn from hence by the general *defection* of the whole realm. *Davies on Ireland.*

Neither can this be meant of evil governours or tyrants, but of ſome perverſeneſs and *defection* in the very nation itſelf. *Bacon's Holy War.*

DEFE'CTIVE. *adj.* [from *defectivus*, Latin.]

1. Full of defects; imperfect; not ſufficient; not adequate to the purpoſe.

It ſubjects them to all the diſeaſes depending upon a *defective* projectile motion of the blood. *Arbuthnot on Aliments.*

It will very little help to cure my ignorance, that this is the beſt of four or five hypotheſes propoſed, which are all *defective*. *Locke.*

If it rend rs us perfect in one accompliſhment, it generally leaves us *defective* in another. *Addiſon's Spectator*, N°. 255.

2. Faulty; vitious; blameable.

Our tragedy writers have been notoriouſly *defective* in giving proper ſentiments to the perſons they introduce. *Addiſ.*

DEFE'CTIVE or *deficient Nouns* [in grammar.] Indeclinable nouns, or ſuch as want a number, or ſome particular caſe.

DEFE'CTIVE *Verb* [in grammar.] A verb which wants ſome of its tenſes.





DEFE'CTIVENESS. *n. ſ.* [from *defective.*] Want; the ſtate of being imperfect; faultineſs.

The lowneſs often opens the building in breadth, or the *defectiveneſs* of ſome other particular makes any ſingle part appear in perfection. *Addiſon's Remarks on Italy.*

DE'FENCE. *n. ſ.* [*defenſo*, Latin.]

1. Guard; protection; ſecurity.

Rehoboam dwelt in Jeruſalem, and built cities for *defence* in Judah. 2 *Chro.* ii. 5.

The Lord is your protection and ſtrong ſtay, a *defence* from heat, and a cover from the ſun. *Eccluſ* xxxiv. 16.

Be thou my ſtrong rock for an houſe of *defence* to ſave me. *Pſ.* xxxi. 2.

Againſt all this there ſeems to be no *defence*, but that of ſupporting one eſtabliſhed form of doctrine and diſcipline. *Sw.*

2. Vindication; juſtification; apology.

Alexander beckoned with his hand, and would have made his *defence* unto the people. *Acts* xix. 33.

The youthful prince
With ſcorn replied, and made this bold *defence*. *Dryden.*

3. Prohibition: this is a ſenſe merely French.

Severe *defences* may be made againſt wearing any linnen under a certain breadth. *Temple.*

4. Reſiſtance.
5. [In law.] The defendant's reply after declaration produced.
6. [In fortification.] The part that ſtanks another work.

DEFE'NCELESS. *adj.* [from *defence.*]

1. Naked; unarmed; unguarded; not provided with defence; unprepared.

Captain or colonel, or knight in arms,
Whoſe chance on theſe *defenceleſs* doors may ſeize,
If deed of honour did thee ever pleaſe,
Guard them, and him within protect from harms. *Milton.*

My ſiſter is not ſo *defenceleſs* left
As you imagine: ſhe has a hidden ſtrength
Which you remember not. *Milton.*

Ah me! that fear
Comes thund'ring back with dreadful revolution
On my *defenceleſs* head. *Milton's Paradiſe Loſt, b.* x. *l.* 815.

On a ſlave diſarm'd,
*Defenceleſs*, and ſubmitted to my rage,
A baſe revenge is vengeance on myſelf. *Dryd. Don Sebaſt.*

2. Impotent; unable to make reſiſtance.

Will ſuch a multitude of men employ
Their ſtrength againſt a weak *defenceleſs* boy? *Addiſ. Ovid.*

To DEFE'ND. *v. a.* [*defendo*, Latin; *defendre*, French.]

1. To ſtand in defence of; to protect; to ſupport.

There aroſe, to *defend* Iſrael, Tola the ſon of Puah. *Judg.*

Deliver me from mine enemies, O my God: *defend* me from them that riſe up againſt me. *Pſ.* lix. 1.

Heav'n *defend* your ſouls, that you think
I will your ſerious and great buſineſs ſcant. *Shakeſp. Othello.*

2. To vindicate; to uphold; to aſſert; to maintain.

The queen on the throne, by God's aſſiſtance, is able to *defend* herſelf againſt all her majeſty's enemies and allies put together. *Swift's Remarks on the Barrier Treaty.*

3. To fortify; to ſecure.

And here th' acceſs a gloomy grove *defends*,
And here th' unnavigable lake extends. *Dryden's Æneis.*

4. To prohibit; to forbid. [*defendre*, French.]

Where can you ſay, in any manner, age,
That ever God *defended* marriage? *Chaucer.*

O ſons! like one of us, man is become
To know both good and evil, ſince his taſte
Of that *defended* fruit. *Milton's Paradiſe Loſt, b.* xi. *l.* 86.

The uſe of it is little practiſed, and in ſome places *defended* by cuſtoms or laws. *Temple.*

5. To maintain a place, or cauſe, againſt thoſe that attack it.

DEFE'NDABLE. *adj.* [from *defend.*] That may be defended.

DEFE'NDANT. *adj.* [from *defendo*, Latin.] Defenſive; fit for defence.

Line and new repair our towns of war
With men of courage, and with means *defendant*. *Shakeſp.*

DEFE'NDANT. *n. ſ.* [from the adjective.]

1. He that defends againſt aſſailants.

Thoſe high towers, out of which the Romans might more conveniently fight with the *defendants* on the wall, thoſe alſo were broken by his engines. *Wilkins's Math. Mag.*

2. [In law.] The perſon accuſed or ſued.

This is the day appointed for the combat,
And ready are th' appellant and *defendant*. *Shak. Henry* VI.

Plaintiff dog, and bear *defendant*. *Hudibras.*

DEFE'NDER. *n. ſ.* [*defenſor*, Latin.]

1. One that defends; a champion.

You have the power ſtill
To baniſh your *defenders*, 'till at length
Your ignorance deliver you,
As moſt abated captives, to ſome nation
That won you without blows. *Shakeſpeare's Coriolanus.*

Do'ſt thou not mourn our pow'r employ'd in vain,
And the *defenders* of our city ſlain? *Dryden.*





2. An aſſerter; a vindicator.

Undoubtedly there is no way ſo effectual to betray the truth, as to procure it a weak *defender*. *South's Sermons.*

3. [In law.] An advocate; one that defends another in a court of juſtice.

DEFENSA'TIVE. *n. ſ.* [from *defence.*]

1. Guard; defence.

A very unſafe *defenſative* it is againſt the fury of the lion, and ſurely no better than virginity, or blood royal, which Pliny doth place in cock-broth. *Brown's Vulgar Errours, b.* iii.

If the biſhop has no other *defenſatives* but excommunication, no other power but that of the keys, he may ſurrender up his paſtoral ſtaff. *South's Sermons.*

2. [In ſurgery.] A bandage, plaiſter, or the like, uſed to ſecure a wound from outward violence.

DEFE'NSIBLE. *adj.* [from *defence.*] That may be defended.

A field,
Which nothing but the ſound of Hotſpur's name,
Did ſeem to make *defenſible*. *Shakeſpeare's Henry* IV. *p.* ii.

They muſt make themſelves *defenſible*, both againſt the natives and againſt ſtrangers. *Bacon's Advice to Villiers.*

Having often heard Venice repreſented as one of the moſt *defenſible* cities in the world, I informed myſelf in what its ſtrength conſiſts. *Addiſon's Remarks on Italy.*

2. Juſtifiable; right; capable of vindication.

I conceive it very *defenſible* to diſarm an adverſary, and diſable him from doing miſchief. *Collier.*

DEFE'NSIVE. *adj.* [*defenſif*, Fr. from *defendens*, Latin.]

1. That ſerves to defend; proper for defence; not offenſive.

He would not be perſuaded by danger to offer any offence, but only to ſtand upon the beſt *defenſive* guard he could. *Sidney.*

My unpreparedneſs for war, teſtifies for me, that I am ſet on the *defenſive* part. *King Charles.*

*Defenſive* arms lay by, as uſeleſs here,
Where maſſy balls the neighbouring rocks do tear. *Waller.*

2. In a ſtate or poſture of defence.

What ſtood, recoil'd,
*Defenſive* ſcarce, or with pale fear ſurpriz'd,
Fled ignominious. *Milton.*

DEFE'NSIVE. *n. ſ.* [from the adjective.]

1. Safeguard.

Wars preventive upon juſt fears, are true *defenſives*, as well as on actual invaſions. *Bacon's War with Spain.*

2. State of defence

His majeſty, not at all diſmayed, reſolved to ſtand upon the *defenſive* only. *Clarendon, b.* viii.

DEFE'NSIVELY. *adv.* [from *defenſive.*] In a defenſive manner.

DEFE'NST. *part. paſſ* [from *defence.*] Defended. Obſolete.

Stout men of arms, and with their guide of power,
Like Troy's old town, *defenſt* with Illion's tow'r. *Fairfax.*

To DEFE'R. *v. n.* [from *differo*, Latin.]

1. To put off; to delay to act.

He will not long *defer*
To vindicate the glory of his name
Againſt all competition, nor will long
Endure it. *Milton's Agoniſtes, l.* 473.

Inure thyſelf by times to the love and practice of good deeds; for the longer thou *deferſt* to be acquainted with them, the leſs every day thou wilt find thyſelf diſpoſed to them. *Atterb.*

2. To pay deference or regard to another's opinion.

To DEFE'R. *v. a.*

1. To withhold; to delay.

*Defer* the promis'd boon, the goddeſs cries,
Celeſtial azure brightning in the eyes. *Pope's Odyſſey, b.* i.

Neither is this a matter to be *deferred* 'till a more convenient time of peace and leiſure. *Swift.*

2. To refer to; to leave to another's judgment and determination.

The commiſſioners *deferred* the matter unto the earl of Northumberland, who was the principal man of authority in thoſe parts. *Bacon's Henry* VII.

DE'FERENCE. *n. ſ.* [*deference*, French.]

1. Regard; reſpect.

Virgil could have excelled Varius in tragedy, and Horace in lyric poetry, but out of *deference* to his friends he attempted neither. *Dryden's Juven. Dedicat.*

He may be convinced that he is in an error, by obſerving thoſe perſons, for whoſe wiſdom and goodneſs he has the greateſt *deference*, to be of a contrary ſentiment. *Swift.*

2. Complaiſance; condeſcenſion

A natural roughneſs makes a man uncomplaiſant to others; ſo that he has no *deference* for their inclinations, tempers, or conditions. *Locke.*

3. Submiſſion.

Moſt of our fellow-ſubjects are guided either by the prejudice of education, or a *deference* to the judgment of thoſe who, perhaps, in their own hearts, diſapprove the opinions which they induſtriouſly ſpread among the multitude. *Addiſon.*

DE'FERENT. *adj.* [from *deferens*, of *defero*, Latin.] That carries up and down.

The figures of pipes or concaves, through which